

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

FOUR COUNTIES ORGANIZE FULL TIME HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

Monterey, Orange, San Joaquin and San Luis Obispo counties have organized full-time county health departments, and have appointed full-time medical health officers to supervise their public health work. San Joaquin County is the first in the state to organize its health department under the local health district act, by which all incorporated and unincorporated territory in the county comes into a single public health unit, administered by the full-time county health officer and governed by a board of trustees, upon which board there is a representative of every incorporated city within the county, as well as representatives from the unincorporated territory. Nearly two thousand electors of San Joaquin County signed the petition for the organization of the department. Stockton, Lodi, Tracy and Manteca have joined with the rural districts in taking this advanced step for the promotion of health and human welfare throughout San Joaquin County.

Orange County has about perfected the organization of its full-time department and has appointed Dr. W. Leland Mitchell as health officer. Dr. Mitchell has had excellent training in public health, and has had extensive experience.

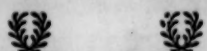
San Joaquin County has completed its full-time health organization and some of the incorporated cities within the county have joined the health

unit. Dr. Lewis F. Badger has been appointed county health officer and is already at work.

Monterey County has appointed Dr. B. T. Tally as county health officer and the public health activities of this county are starting with vigor and enthusiasm.

The minimum unit for a full-time county health department in California consists of a full-time physician as health officer; a public health nurse; a sanitary inspector and an office clerk, each of whom must devote full time to the duties of his office. A minimum appropriation of \$10,000, annually, is required in the proposed county budget. Modern conditions must be met with by the use of modern methods. The increased opportunities for the spread of contact diseases have grown tremendously since modern methods of transportation have done away with the isolation of remote communities. The opportunities for the spread of contact diseases are vastly greater today than they were ten years ago. With a full-time health officer and a public health nurse and a sanitary inspector constituting a flying squadron, a large amount of preliminary epidemiological work can be accomplished before calling upon state or federal health authorities for assistance. There is no reason why an outbreak of the more common communicable diseases can not be brought under control through the investigation and supervision of the local department, independent of state action. Under the ideal plan, the

state should contribute only the expert technical assistance that the local community is unable to provide.



Rabies Widely Prevalent in State During 1922.

The following table indicates in which counties of California rabies appeared during the past year:

Rabies in California, 1922.

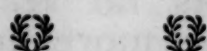
County	Cases in Animals	Cases in Humans
Alameda -----	35	--
Contra Costa -----	5	--
Inyo -----	2	--
Kern -----	2	--
Kings -----	6	--
Lassen -----	1	--
Los Angeles -----	427	4
Modoc -----	1	--
Monterey -----	1	--
Orange -----	15	--
Placer -----	2	--
Riverside -----	18	--
Sacramento -----	1	--
San Bernardino -----	18	--
San Diego -----	3	--
San Joaquin -----	3	--
Siskiyou -----	1	--
Solano -----	1	--
Stanislaus -----	2	--
Totals -----	544	4

The State Board of Health provided treatment to 282 persons who were bitten by rabid dogs. According to such information as is now available, more than 400 individuals in California were given this treatment last year. The commercial laboratories that manufacture the virus used in the administration of the anti-rabic treatments sold almost as much of this product in Los Angeles as the state provided free of cost.

The following table shows that rabies was more prevalent in California last year than ever before in the history of the state:

Rabies in California, 1910-1922.

Year	Cases in Animals	Cases in Humans
1910 -----	18	3
1911 -----	67	18
1912 -----	531	14
1913 -----	419	11
1914 -----	228	4
1915 -----	66	5
1916 -----	197	1
1917 -----	41	--
1918 -----	29	--
1919 -----	75	--
1920 -----	176	4
1921 -----	124	5
1922 -----	544	4

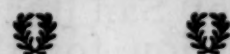


Another Typhoid Carrier Discovered.

Two men who were engaged in the repair of telegraph lines in the south-

ern part of the state contracted typhoid fever last month. Both of these patients ate and slept in two company cars that were attached to freight trains and moved about from place to place as occasion required. There were sixteen men in the crew besides the foreman, his wife, the cook and her helper. The sanitary provisions on the cars were good and the outfit appeared to be well conducted. The food was well prepared and of excellent quality. The quarters were kept clean. The members of the crew were provided with individual towels, hot and cold water and shower baths. The water supply was carried in a tank car which was attached to the dining car.

Investigations into the food and water supplies made by the representatives of the State Board of Health, brought only negative results. In the course of the investigations it was learned that the cook had typhoid five years ago. Further investigations determined the status of the cook as a carrier, and the necessary restrictions for the protection of the public health were imposed immediately. Under the agreement, the carrier will not engage in the handling or preparation of foodstuffs to be consumed by persons other than herself. She agrees to submit specimens for examination at stated intervals, in order to determine her status as a typhoid carrier. She further agrees to report to the local health officer within whose jurisdiction she may reside. This woman has been a resident of several states since her attack of typhoid five years ago, and the investigation is being carried into these states in order to learn if the members of other working crews where she was employed may have contracted the disease from her.



Kings County Dogs Must Be Vaccinated.

Kings County has recently passed an ordinance which requires that all dogs within the county be vaccinated against rabies by the new one-injection method, or else be confined upon the premises of their owners. Within a few days after the adoption of the ordinance more than 350 dogs had been vaccinated and about 100 stray dogs had been killed. The ordinance is being most rigidly enforced.

The establishment of a county pound and the appointment of a pound-master have been authorized

by the county board of supervisors. The pound-master will work under the direction of the county health officer, Dr. E. C. Bond, and the county veterinarian, Dr. Frank Griffith. The effective methods used in Kings County for the control of rabies is well shown through the fact that following the appearance of a single case of the disease in a dog last December, sixteen sections of the county were immediately placed in quarantine, in order that the further spread of the disease might be stopped.

The quick adoption and thorough enforcement of control measures such as these are effective in producing results, not only in the protection of live stock, but also in safeguarding the health and promoting the happiness of the residents of the county.



PRENATAL TALK.*

San Francisco has a unique position in the fact that for all mothers hospital care of the best is accessible.

More mothers avail themselves of hospital care in San Francisco than in any other city of its size in the United States. In 1919, 57 per cent of the babies were born in hospitals.

For the mother whose budget is limited and who can not arrange for care under one of the various outpatient services where doctor and nurse are sent free of charge for the confinement and after-care, our San Francisco Hospital offers perfect care. That maternity ward, streaming with sunlight, spotless in every detail, and its adjacent nursery, where the new babies are most carefully regulated and cared for, is worth a visit.

Good Start, Slogan.

Every citizen—man or woman—will insist on an adequate health budget when he sees what care means to the less fortunate mothers and babies. A good start in life is surely the slogan of that ward.

For the family of more certain income, but whose finances still need to be closely conserved, several hospitals, notably Lane, the University of California, the Children's Hospital and Mt. Zion, have house service rates where modern care can be secured within the reach of the moderate ability to pay. The hospitals of these two groups supply careful prenatal care to their house cases, and connect the baby with their well-baby

clinics, so that the young mother can rely on their interest and support through the uncertainties of the first months of baby's life.

Care of Physician.

In the next group of hospitals come those which take patients of private physicians, and there the care ranges in price from \$5 per day up, according to the demands of the patient, or the extreme necessities of the difficult case. The price for medical service is arranged between the patient and the physician, and the prenatal care is done by the physician. Stanford, Children's, St. Mary's Help, Mt. Zion, the St. Francis, St. Luke's, and several others all maintain this type of service, and in each one the outlay can be adjusted by the circumstances of the case.

Home care can be arranged for the non-self-sustaining home through the Stanford and the University of California obstetrical clinics, and through Mt. Zion. In some cities, as Los Angeles, this service is given under the Board of Health, but in San Francisco is dedicated to the medical school service. The services of doctor and nurse are given daily for ten days or longer if necessary, and the baby and mother referred back for later guidance and care. The prenatal care is done at the hospital clinics by a visiting nurse, and in each case is excellent.

Services of Nurse.

In the adequately self-sustaining home the nurse is often on duty to care for the mother and baby and supervise the household. Often a mother or a sister comes to help out, and where the nurse is capable and adaptable and has clearly in mind the essentials of good care, she swings this household well, even to cooking for herself and patient.

Although the twelve-hour law for trained nurses has come to stay, the trained nurse who "likes baby cases" is not yet a lost variety, and some mothers prefer to have the baby at home and avail themselves of this highest grade of service. The trained attendant or household assistant who can come in when the trained nurse leaves, or who can take charge of the household while the mother and baby are at the hospital and care for them for a week on their return, is the great need in the present situation.

To provide good care is the father's duty.

*Fourteenth in series published each Saturday in the San Francisco Call.

LIST OF DISEASES REPORTABLE BY LAW.

ANTHRAX	MEASLES
BERI-BERI	MUMPS
BOTULISM	OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM
CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS (Epidemic)	PARATYPHOID FEVER
CHICKENPOX	PELLAGRA
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	PLAGUE
DENGUE	PNEUMONIA
DIPHTHERIA	POLIOMYELITIS
DYSENTERY	RABIES
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED (or Tick) FEVER
ERYSIPELAS	SCARLET FEVER
FLUKES	SMALLPOX
FOOD POISONING	SYPHILIS*
GERMAN MEASLES	TETANUS
GLANDERS	TRACHOMA
GONOCOCCUS INFECTION*	TUBERCULOSIS
HOOKWORM	TYPHOID FEVER
INFLUENZA	TYPHUS FEVER
JAUNDICE, INFECTIOUS	WHOOPING COUGH
LEPROSY	YELLOW FEVER
MALARIA	

QUARANTINABLE DISEASES.

CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS (Epidemic)	POLIOMYELITIS
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	SCARLET FEVER
DIPHTHERIA	SMALLPOX
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	TYPHOID FEVER
LEPROSY	TYPHUS FEVER
PLAGUE	YELLOW FEVER

*Reported by office number. Name and address not required.

MORBIDITY.*

Smallpox.

Twenty-seven cases of smallpox have been reported, the distribution being as follows: Colusa 1, Eureka 1, Fresno 2, Glenn County 1, Inyo County 3, Los Angeles 7, Oakland 4, Oxnard 1, Santa Clara County 2, Santa Paula 1, Siskiyou County 2, Stanislaus County 2.

Typhoid Fever.

Eight cases of typhoid have been reported from the following localities: Los Angeles 2, Modoc County 1, Oakland 2, Orange County 1, Richmond 1, Riverside 1.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis.

Eureka reported one case of cerebrospinal meningitis.

Epidemic Encephalitis.

Three cases of epidemic encephalitis have been reported, one each from Napa County, Pasadena and San Francisco.

*From reports received to date for last week.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1922-1923				1921-1922			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Jan. 13 received by Jan. 16	Week ending			Reports for week ending Jan. 14 received by Jan. 18
	Dec. 23	Dec. 30	Jan. 6		Dec. 24	Dec. 31	Jan. 7	
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	3	1	4	1	3	4	2	0
Chickenpox	85	81	167	136	84	61	123	88
Diphtheria	211	191	158	176	305	256	272	211
Dysentery (Bacillary)	2	1	0	0	6	0	0	0
Epidemic Encephalitis	1	2	0	3	2	3	0	1
Gonorrhoea	97	61	127	157	66	67	132	85
Influenza	25	18	33	42	10	20	43	17
Leprosy	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Malaria	2	2	1	3	0	1	2	1
Measles	25	32	63	48	31	15	11	14
Mumps	15	12	11	15	46	36	83	86
Pneumonia	128	80	125	145	122	143	99	58
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	3	3	2	1
Scarlet Fever	132	119	142	139	160	120	107	93
Smallpox	12	11	24	27	132	136	134	161
Syphilis	63	84	100	124	78	41	83	43
Tuberculosis	89	159	162	138	95	114	151	92
Typhoid Fever	19	7	9	8	11	11	9	5
Whooping Cough	36	47	83	105	36	30	29	46
Totals	945	909	1209	1267	1191	1062	1282	1002